

SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

AWARD CATEGORY	PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY ¹	SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS ²	EXAMPLE PROJECTS ³
Agriculture & Forestry	To recognize individuals, businesses, or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional achievement in developing sustainable resource management programs for agricultural or forestry operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deployed a host of grazing technologies to improve water quality in and around the farm (<i>Raymond Cooper Farm, 2007</i>) Horneyhead Creek Restoration project improved water quality and the habitat (<i>UT Forest Restoration Center, 2006</i>)
Aquatic Resource Preservation	To recognize the organized and sustained efforts of individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that improve or protect an aquatic ecosystem in Tennessee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of the aquatic ecosystem Impact to the biological integrity and diversity of the aquatic ecosystem Integrated effort relating to adjacent land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retrofitted a state-owned campus with the latest in low-impact development practices that are improving the water quality in Sevenmile Creek (<i>Ellington Agricultural Center Campus, 2007</i>) Conducted 115 visual stream surveys along portions of the watersheds impaired streams (<i>Red River Watershed Assoc., 2006</i>)
Building Green	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that further the widespread use of green building materials and construction techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with existing green building programs Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A business systematically constructs its new facilities using green materials and techniques (<i>Lawrence Bros. – Morgan Park Place, 2007</i>) Building outside of the Box (BOB) demonstrates cost effectiveness of building green (<i>Cumberland River Compact, 2006</i>)
Energy Leadership	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and communities for demonstrating outstanding leadership in improving energy efficiency, developing advanced energy technologies, and using renewable energy resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processes used to optimize the amount of energy consumed in operational activities (<i>if applicable</i>) Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Converting landfill gas to energy while conserving natural resources (<i>Johnson City Iris Glen Gas to Energy Partnership, 2007</i>) Reduced energy consumption through multiple energy management projects (<i>Panther Creek State Park, 2006</i>)
Environmental Education and Outreach	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance of the educational and outreach efforts to environmental issues that are particularly pertinent in a given community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2006 EarthFest promotes a greater public awareness of environmental issues in East Tennessee (<i>Tennessee Valley Earth Partnership, 2007</i>) Provides educational programs that increase the awareness of environmental stewardship (<i>Great Smoky Mountain Institute at Tremont, 2006</i>)
Green Schools	To recognize schools that encourage pollution prevention projects on their campuses while increasing the environmental awareness of students and staff; awarded to 1 K-12 school and 1 institution of higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness in addressing issues relating to air quality; energy, land, or water conservation; hazardous materials management; or solid waste reduction Participation by the student body, staff, faculty, and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps surrounding areas understand the relationship between the community and the environment (<i>West Carroll Elementary, 2007</i>) WaterWorks! Promotes clean water in Tennessee through a multi-media approach advocating water quality (<i>MTSU Center for Environmental Education, 2007</i>)

¹ There must be a three year window between win for each category

² These specific considerations are taken into account in addition to the standard judging criteria of ambition, innovation, education, cooperation, achievement, and commitment.

³ For complete descriptions of the project examples, please refer to the Previous Award Winners section on the awards Web Site, www.tdec.net/awards

AWARD CATEGORY	PURPOSE/ELIGIBILITY	SPECIFIC JUDGING CONSIDERATIONS	EXAMPLE PROJECTS
Greenways and Trails	To recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, or agencies that have achieved significant progress in furthering the protection or development of Tennessee's greenways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on particularly significant river corridors, scenic trails, and other areas of cultural value Involvement of neighboring communities Collaboration with regional or statewide initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a large ADA accessible playground and trail (<i>Maury County Parks & Recreation, 2007</i>) Rail-with-Trail greenway that links recreational, cultural, and natural amenities (<i>City of Cookeville, 2006</i>)
Hazardous Waste Reduction	To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of hazardous wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall impact to human health Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed an environmentally responsible business model that address the recycling of end-of-life vehicles (<i>Pull-A-Part, 2007</i>) Removed outdated, unwanted and unstable chemicals from the entire school system (<i>Hamilton County Schools, 2006</i>)
Solid Waste Reduction	To recognize businesses that have eliminated or reduced the generation of solid wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of commitment in the reduction of solid waste being disposed of Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A (new category)
Lifetime Achievement	To recognize individuals who have devoted at least 25 years of effective and valuable service to Tennessee's environmental protection or conservation stewardship; posthumous awards not made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notable personal achievements in areas such as natural resource management, conservation, education, public service, and political support toward Tennessee's conservation and/or environmental protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forty-Five years of being an effective champion for outdoor recreation and the protection of Tennessee's environment (<i>Bertha Chrietzburg, 2007</i>) Fifty years in benefiting Tennessee communities through the Girl Scouts and many other Tennessee organizations (<i>Virginia Birdsong, 2006</i>)
Natural Heritage Conservation	To recognize individuals, organizations, businesses, or agencies for achievements in protecting, preserving, or restoring Tennessee's natural landscape and native flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability of project to address multiple environmental, educational, recreational, and economic goals Effectiveness in the long-term protection and enhancement of biological diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The restoration and protection of the forested ecosystem in and around Beaman Park (<i>Friends of Beaman Park, 2007</i>) Removed exotic species from 650 acres with the help of over 2,000 volunteers (<i>Stones River National Battlefield, 2006</i>)
Parks and Recreation	To recognize public sector parks for achievements in implementing best management practices and creating innovative solutions to today's recreational issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent to which project addresses issues of recreational trends and environmental balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of a 23-acre Brownfield project on the Tennessee River (<i>City of Chattanooga, 2007</i>) Installed a 20,000 square foot native butterfly garden (<i>Burgess Falls State Park, 2006</i>)
Pollution Prevention	To recognize businesses that are committed to corporate environmental stewardship & that have significantly reduced or eliminated sources by modifying production processes, promoting the use of non-toxic or less-toxic substances, implementing conservation techniques, & re-using materials rather than putting them into the waste stream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of management commitment in preventing pollution through source / waste reduction and avoidance of media transfer Relationship between the environmental benefits and the associated economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminated the production process for carpet samples and creates it from one hundred percent recyclable paper (<i>Tricycle, 2007</i>) Developed a comprehensive commuter program to reduce pollution among other environmental issues (<i>Vanderbilt University, 2006</i>)